

What is claimed is:

1. A portable terminal device comprising:
image pick-up means for picking up an image;
photography procedure switching means for switching to a bar code as an object to be photographed;
display means for displaying the image obtained by the image pick-up means; and
code recognition means for recognizing the picked-up image of the bar code when the device is switched to bar code photography mode by the photography procedure switching means.
2. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the photography procedure switching means changes an image capture area in the image pick-up means, depending on the type of bar code.
3. The portable terminal device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the photography procedure switching means changes at least one or more of the factors of gradation property, contrast, brightness, white balance, exposure, focus depth, edge enhancement, and resolution between a natural image and a bar code image.
4. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the photography procedure switching means has frame rate control means,
wherein the frame rate control means, when switching to bar code photography mode, displays an image obtained by the image pick-up means at a high frame rate on the display means until the code recognition means starts up and displays an image at a frame rate necessary for the code recognition means after the code recognition means starts up.
5. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, further comprising lighting means for lighting the object.

6. The portable terminal device according to claim 5, comprising lighting switching means for turning on/off the lighting means.

7. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, comprising notifying means for giving notice of a result recognized by the code recognition means.

8. The portable terminal device according to claim 7, wherein the notifying means gives notice of the recognition result via sound, voice, or a message displayed on the display means.

9. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, further comprising timer setting means for measuring a setting time,

wherein the notifying means gives notice of recognition failure when a bar code is not recognized within a period set by the timer setting means.

10. A portable terminal device comprising a camera for picking up an image and a display part for displaying the picked-up image, both being built into the device,

wherein a marker indicating camera position is provided.

11. The portable terminal device according to claim 10, wherein the marker is provided on the surface of a main body just at the back of an opening of the camera by a printing, an inscription, or a sticker.

12. The portable terminal device according to claim 10, comprising marker display means for displaying image information indicating the marker on the display part when the display part is located on the main body just at the back of the opening of the camera.

13. The portable terminal device according to claim 10, wherein the

marker display means deletes the display of the image information indicating the marker in synchronization with the shutter operation of the camera or a notice of image pick-up result, or switches on/off the display of the image information indicating the marker in accordance with user's instruction.

14. The portable terminal device according to claim 1, wherein the image pick-up means picks up a moving/still image with an area-type solid-state image sensing device.

15. The portable terminal device according to any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the portable terminal device is a portable telephone or portable information terminal.

16. A computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded thereon, the program causing a computer to operate a portable terminal device comprising:

image pick-up means for picking up an image;

photography procedure switching means for switching to a bar code as an object to be photographed;

display means for displaying the image obtained by the image pick-up means; and

code recognition means for recognizing the picked-up image of the bar code when the device is switched to bar code photography mode by the photography procedure switching means.

17. A program causing a computer to operate a portable terminal device comprising:

image pick-up means for picking up an image;

photography procedure switching means for switching to a bar code as an object to be photographed;

display means for displaying the image obtained by the image pick-up means; and

code recognition means for recognizing the picked-up image of the bar code when the device is switched to bar code photography mode by the photography procedure switching means.